

Enclosure 4

WATERSHED RESTORATION AND PROTECTION WATER ISSUE STRATEGIC PLAN SUMMARY

ISSUE SUMMARY: Watershed restoration and protection efforts are needed to address a variety of water quality and water resource concerns such as achievement of Total Maximum Daily Loads, protection of public water supply reservoirs, and protection or restoration of wetland and riparian habitats. Each day Kansas' water resources are assaulted with water pollution, eutrophication and sedimentation to the extent that our expectations of these resources are not being met. Over the years, Kansas and the federal government have initiated a variety of programs and activities to protect and restore water resources. While each of these programs and initiatives is meritorious, their full potential has not been reached. The Watershed Restoration and Protection strategic plan initiative is intended to address this gap.

While Kansas is blessed with both surface and ground water, the large Federal reservoirs as a group represent an especially important component of Kansas' water. These reservoirs provide drinking water to communities that collectively serve over a million persons, account for millions of recreational visits annually, provide flood protection for major population centers, and support aquatic life and wildlife habitat. Sedimentation and eutrophication are major resource concerns that threaten the useful life of our reservoirs. Because of the complex interrelationships of hydrology, soils, culture and watershed morphology, a specific action plan for each individual reservoir and its watershed is necessary.

The Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy (WRAPS) approach is intended to provide a framework to 1) provide a means of engaging all stakeholders of a watershed in a collaborative process of identifying watershed restoration and protection needs, establishing management goals and selecting a cost effective plan to achieve the goals, and 2) provide a report that documents the decisions of the watershed stakeholder team concerning goals, the action plan and the resources required to execute the action plan.

This following strategic plan is proposed to facilitate a collaborative relationship among state, federal, local government and private sector interests so that available and enhanced financial and technical assistance resources are directed to the priority water resource needs of the citizens of Kansas. Figure 1 illustrates this proposed process.

GOAL: Develop and implement local watershed restoration and protection strategies in priority areas.

OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGIES:

1. Establish a unified interagency protocol for developing WRAPS that assures proper and sustainable watershed function.
 - Define the process for developing a local WRAPS
 - Establish criteria defining proper and sustainable watershed function
 - Develop tools needed to interpret data and observations, identify watershed

restoration and protection needs, and cost effective implementation actions

Proposed Timeline: February – July 2004

2. Implement local watershed restoration and protection strategies on the basis of watershed priority.
 - Establish criteria and develop a methodology for determining watershed priority for WRAPS development and implementation
 - Utilize priority areas in targeting state and federal program resources

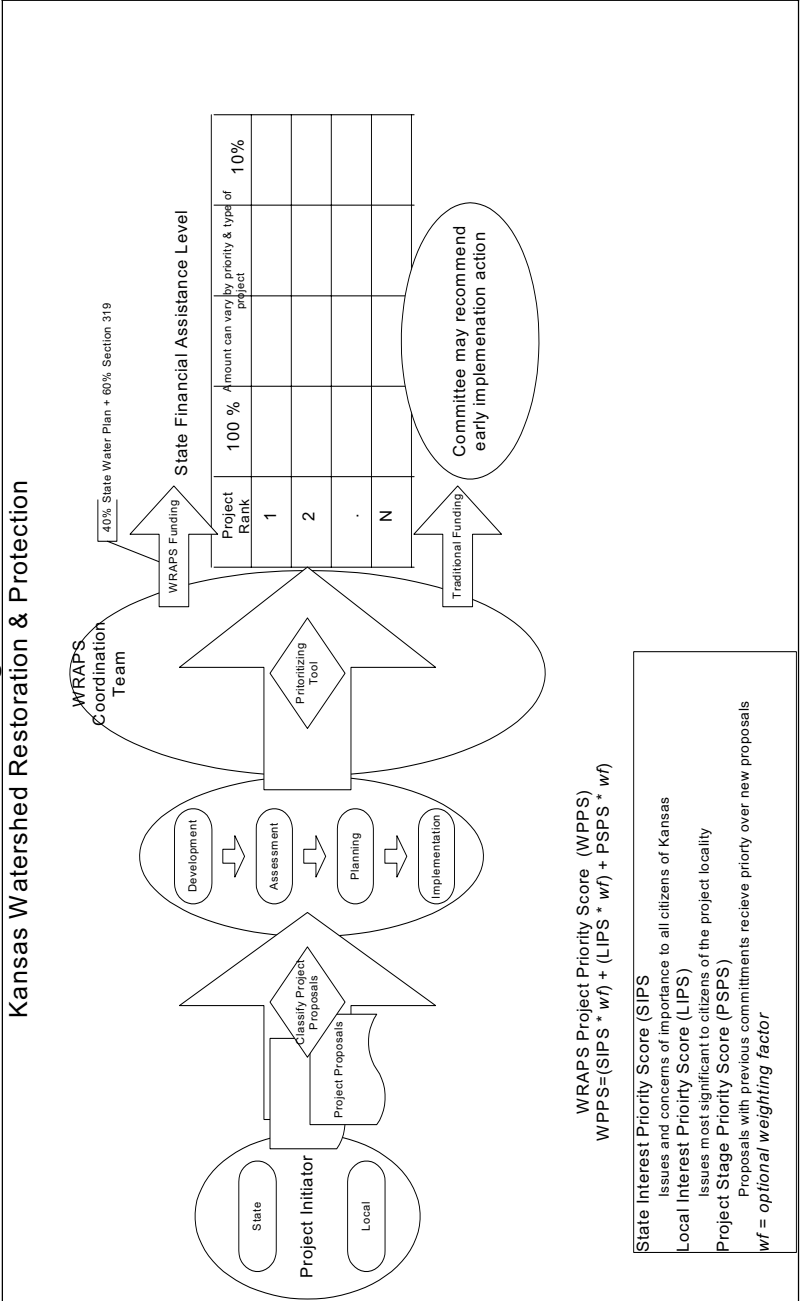
Proposed Timeline: February – August 2004

3. Assure adequate resources to implement local WRAPS in priority areas.
 - Establish a WRAPS Coordination Team to assure effective communication and coordination
 - Establish unified state leadership interagency agreements and coordination of state budgets
 - Partner with state associations to promote WRAPS development and implementation
 - Empower local leadership through education and training
 - Provide priority-based funding for technical and financial support for local WRAPS development and implementation
 - Evaluate local and state authorities and programs for WRAPS implementation and recommend additional authorities and/or programs as needed

Proposed Timeline: May 2004 – ongoing

WISP Agencies: KDHE, KWO, SCC, KDWP, KDA/DWR, KSU Research & Extension, NRCS, COE

Figure 1
Kansas Watershed Restoration & Protection



Watershed Restoration & Protection WISP Projects	Agency	FY05 Base Budget	New FY 05 Funding			New FY 06 Funding ³			Comments
			SWPF	SGF	Other	SWPF	SGF	Other	
Priority Watershed Projects ¹	KDHE (WISP Agencies)	(see note ²)							Funding based on matching State Water Plan Funds (40%) with EPA Section 319 Grant Funds (60%).
Web-based Watershed Coordination Project	KWO (DASC)	\$11,000				\$800,000		⁴	
Total New Fund Requests		\$11,000				\$802,000			
Notes:									
¹ Initial priority projects include watersheds above federal reservoirs serving public water supply functions (See figure below). Budget estimates are based on needs for WRAPS development, assessment, planning and implementation. Preliminary estimates for FY 06: Development - \$522,220; Assessment/Planning-\$486,509; Implementation-\$807,752 (balance of funding for priority projects in other watersheds). Further prioritization and refinement of project costs will be undertaken as outlined in the strategic plan.									
² Work ongoing in some watersheds with EPA Clean Water Act Section 319 grant funds, SCC programs and other programs.									
³ EPA Section 319 Grant Funds from State's Annual Allocation									
⁴ Additional local funding anticipated for specific watershed projects.									

Watersheds of Federal Lakes Serving Public Water Supply Needs

